

c.) Remarks

Claims 7 and 9-25 are pending in this application. Claims 9, 14, 17, and 19 have been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove. New Claims 21-25 have been added to alternatively define Applicants' invention. Claims 1-6 and 9 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention.. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

In independent claim 9, "target" has been changed to "sample" to refer to what the system is imaging. Thus, it is now clear that the target of claim 18 is the source target.

Claims 7, 9-13 15, 16, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suckewer (US 5,177,774). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 9 requires a reflective condenser that directs the ultraviolet radiation onto a sample at an angle of between normal to the sample and 7 degrees off normal [emphasis added].

In contrast, the Suckewer system uses a different configuration. For example from column 5 of the Suckewer patent:

In the preferred embodiment of the invention, as shown in FIG. 1, a soft X-ray generator 2, in this example a soft X-ray laser source 2 is shown, provides a soft X-ray beam 4 at an angle α of 30° to 60° to the horizontal plane of an object or specimen 6, for example. A

Later in column 6, it provides:

tion object 6 via an ellipsoidal mirror 26. The reflection
object 6 was constructed by evaporating gold onto a
polished surface through a TEM number 200 grid. The
45 angle of incidence of the 18.2 nm laser beam to the
reflection object was limited by the vacuum chamber
utilized to 70°, or an angle of 20° between the reflection
surface of object 6 and the incident beam 10. The image

In either case, the claimed range is not shown or suggested. Thus, withdrawal of
the rejection is requested.

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. A
Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner
is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By /grant houston/
J. Grant Houston
Registration No.: 35,900
Tel.: 781 863 9991
Fax: 781 863 9931

Lexington, Massachusetts 02421
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